## Before the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance

In the matter of:

AIS Corporation 514 Pettigru Street Greenville, SC 29609 SCDOI File Number: 07-0851

**Consent Order Imposing Administrative Penalty** 

This matter comes before me pursuant to an agreement entered into between the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance and above named respondent, a licensed resident South Carolina insurance/surety company.

Upon review of this matter, I hereby find as fact that the AIS Corporation, a company licensed as a surety bail bonds agency within the State of South Carolina, did fail to <u>timely</u> file its monthly bail bond report with the Greenville County's Clerk of Court. The respondent acknowledges the allegation but contends this failure resulted from an error and not from any intent to avoid the requirements of the Law. Nevertheless, this type of action can ultimately lead to the revocation of the Company's license to transact the business of insurance/surety bail bonding in South Carolina, following a public hearing at the Administrative Law Court, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. & 38-43-130.

Prior to the initiation of any administrative proceedings by the Department against it, the Company and the Department agreed to submit the entire matter to me, along with their specific recommendation, for my summary decision, rather than to proceed toward a formal public hearing. The consensual recommendation was that, in lieu of the Department seeking to revoke AIS' licensing privileges, they would waive their right to a public hearing, and subsequently pay through the Department an administrative penalty in the amount of \$250.00 dollars.

After a thorough review of the record, and pursuant to my findings of fact, I hereby conclude as a matter of law, that AIS Corporation had violated SC Code Ann.§38-53-310(Supp.2006) by failing to file its bail bond report with the Greenville County's Clerk of Court. As a result, I can now take administrative disciplinary action against its resident insurance/surety bail bonds licensing privileges. However, in view of AIS' willingness to expeditiously resolve this matter and being this, its first violation, I have decided to grant them the benefit of the doubt, concluding that there was no malice, criminal intent, nor willful conduct involved.

Therefore, under the discretionary authority provided to me by the General Assembly within SC Code Ann.§38-2-10(2)(Supp. 2006), and after carefully considering the recommendation of the parties, I hereby impose against the AIS Corporation an administrative penalty in the amount of \$250.00 dollars, to be paid within ten days of receipt of this consent order. If this penalty is not paid as instructed, all of the Company's licensing privileges would be immediately revoked without any further disciplinary proceedings.

This agreement has been reached by the parties as a result of negotiation and compromise, and it is made in consideration of AIS Corporation's assurances that in the future it will exercise more caution and supervision over their representatives, in order to fully comply with South Carolina's Insurance Laws.

This penalty includes all expenses related to the investigation of this matter, as provided in Section 38- 13-70 of the South Carolina Code of Administrative Laws. The parties expressly agree and understand payment of the agreed-upon penalty constitutes full accord and satisfaction of this matter.

By the signature of its representatives upon this consent order, AIS Corporation acknowledges this administrative disciplinary order is a public record subject to the disclosure requirements of the State of South Carolina's *Freedom of Information Act*, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-4-10, *et seq.* (1991 & Supp. 2006).

It is, therefore ordered, that AIS Corporation shall, within ten days from the date of receipt of this consent order, pay through the Department of Insurance an administrative penalty in the amount of \$250.00 dollars.

It is further ordered that a copy of this consent order be immediately transmitted to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners for distribution to its member states and a copy be placed in respondent's licensing file.

This order becomes effective as of the date of my signature below.

Scott Richardson

Swood- Rhandoon

Director of Insurance

Dated this , day of May, 2007.

I CONSENT:

Name:

Sans Wills

Signature

Title: PIES. Sent OF
PIS COIPNATION

AIS Corporation 514 Pettigru Street Greenville, SC 29609